

APLA Meeting
March 18, 2005 – Florence

Present: Yolanda McCormick, Sharon Rowe, Martha Baily, Paula Paul, Colleen Carney, Faith Line, Norris Wootton, Bill Cooper, Jim Johnson, Sarah McMaster, Salley Davidson, George Hobeika, Sue Rainey, Ann Ramsey, Jan Buvinger

Yolanda McCormick introduced two speakers from the state Adult Education program – Joan Mason, Director of the South Carolina Workplace Resource Center (Greenville) and Charan Lee, Director of the Region I Adult Education Technical Assistance Center (Williamston.)

Adult Education has a new program called GED Integrated Online Solution. It is offered by McGraw Hill Contemporary publishers. One can study from anywhere there is an internet connection. First students attend a GED Online orientation provided by the local Adult Education program. They have their own username and password as well as an online messaging system to work with instructors. There are over 115 randomized interactive lessons, pre- and post-tests. The program has graphics, video, and sound bytes. There are customizable resource lists. Virtual Seats are assigned for a year at a time to a student. Adults who cannot attend onsite classes are encouraged to access GED preparation online. They are tested for computer skills to make sure they can benefit from this online program.

Adult Education is working with library systems to make this program more accessible. The computer software has certain technical restrictions. Local Adult Education will meet with library staff to arrange for access to the GED online software and will provide library with referral information. The proposal is for the local library to have program information available and provide computer access to GED online.

Charan Lee demonstrated the software. Log-in screen has message board for communication. Performance summary shows student completions and progress. 2002 GED exam is in current use. Essay is of critical importance. Program uses both a CD-ROM and the Internet. This is due to download time for graphics. CD-ROM can either run from the individual computer drive or be downloaded on the library network. She did a demonstration of a writing lesson, then a social studies unit. She also showed a math pre-test which had randomized problems.

Health, privacy, child care, work schedule and transportation are all issues preventing learners from attending on-site programs. They want to give the software to the library systems. They would work with tech staff to load on library computers. The software could potentially be loaded on every public access computer. This would obviate the need for a CD to be provided by the student. A statewide coordinator for IT with Adult Education is available.

The program has been in place since October 2004 and currently has 500-600 students. Chester has already been approached by local Adult Education and has implemented the

program. Local Adult Education person will bring the disk and oversee installation. They will be responsible for registering students. Press releases and feature stories would be nice. Adult Education is doing a large publicity campaign to promote GED preparation in general. People might be calling library but direct them to Adult Education.

Business Meeting

Minutes from February 4, 2005. The word should be liaison not lobbyist. The House bill is sponsored by Representatives Townsend and Miller. Minutes accepted.

Bill Cooper passed out current financial report. Hotel bill should be about \$8500 and is outstanding. \$360 has been received for Legislative Day lunches. APLA will be paying for half of refreshments for today.

Book bid – Bill Cooper has heard from all but three systems. He assumes they are not participating. \$2 million planned for books and \$184,000 for AV, or about \$600,000 less than three years ago. Amazon does not do bids. BWI, Barnes & Noble, Ingram, and Baker & Taylor are all to be contacted. Some people have problems with changing vendor. Most people want all or nothing. Maybe we should have a mail vote after Litchfield for people who do not attend. The bid information could be presented beforehand.

Jim Johnson – State Library Report

House passed budget last week. There is \$2 per capita State Aid. Rep. Harrell gave us money directly to reinstate DISCUS to permanent part of budget. Legislative Day was instrumental in this restoration. There should be a revised budgetary forecast for the Senate proceedings and at that point the money will be re-allocated. Now the budget goes to the Senate: Budget committee has had a hearing. Finance Committee will meet April 4th. The full Senate will debate the budget the week of April 18th.

Thank Bobby Harrell for the \$2 and DISCUS, as well as local delegates.

\$1.5 million to Library School for the Augusta Baker chair passed. No lottery money in budget because more money in permanent budget than we would have gotten. We can contact local delegates if we like – maybe surplus money. Sen. Malloy wants to give lottery money to libraries. Technology money is differentiated on purpose.

Documents Bill – S319 has passed both House and Senate. Waiting for governor's signature, but enough support if vetoed.

LSTA committee met last week. Notice awards should be sent out shortly.

DISCUS director – offer has been made but not yet accepted.

ALTA Hall of Fame – nominated three people for ALA recognition: Sen. Gerald Malloy, Dwight McInvaill and Todd Stephens.

Patti Butcher from the Northeast Kansas Library System has accepted the State Library Director job. She starts July 1st but will be here in mid-April to get set up. Thomas Reddick speaks highly of her.

Project School Ready – Ann Ramsey

This is literacy for parents of young children, 0-6 years. It is a pilot project between Chester County's public library, school board, and First Steps. The school board is for pre-K to 1st grade. First Steps and Parents as Teachers are for 0-4 years. Library does the literacy component. The web site is <http://www.learningandreadingpartners.com>. She would like to present this concept to the children's librarians.

APLA retreat is May 11th-13th. The actual meeting days are the 12th and the 13th in Georgetown County. The registration deadline is April 10th.

The meeting was adjourned followed by a guided tour of the Florence library.